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SAL 01,SS 35,OPM 03,SP 02,S 01,L 03,H 02,P 04,NSC 10,INR 07,
RSR 01,AID 30,/137 W

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P R 041130Z AUG 67 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4061
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 3681
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 106
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2088

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 2393 SECTION 1 OF 2

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

KATHMANDU FOR AMB BUNKER

REF: A) SAIGON 2348
B) SAIGON 2204
C) SAIGON'S A-84, AUG 1, 1967

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES' TELEVISION AND RADIO PRESENTATIONS

(1)

PAGE TW RUMJIR 2393/1 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL

1. EVENING AUGUST 3 ALL ELEVEN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES MADE FIVE-MINUTE APPERANCES ON VIETNAM TV. FOUR CANDIDATES (HUONG, THIEU, HA THUC KY AND PHAN HUY CO) ALSO HAD

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TEN-MINUTE RADIO SPOTS. (REMAINING CANDIDATES WILL GIVE RADIO SPEECHES AUG 4 AND 5.)

2. CAN. DATES APPEARED ON TELEVU
ION IN ORDER IN WHICH
THEY ARE LISTED IN FINAL POSTING OF CANDIDATES. THUS, PHAN KHAC SUN WAS FIRST, HA THUC KY SECOND, ETC. WITH EXCEPTION OF THIEU-KY SLATE, PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES APPEARED TOGETHER. PRIME MINISTER KY DID NOT APPEAR. (HOWEVER NEWS PROGRAM FEA-TURING KY VISIT TO DINH TUON FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY AFTER CANDIDATES' SPEECHES.) THIEU KY SLATE WAS GIVEN SOMEWHAT EXCPETION TREATMENT IN INTRODUCTION; CAMERAS FOCUSED FOR SEVERAL SECONDS ONPORTRAITS OF THEIU AND KY DURING INTRODUCGORY REMARKS BY TV ANNOUNCER, WHICH WAS NOT DONE OR OTHER CANDIDATES.

3. SUU AND DAN APPEARED FIRST, READING SELECTED SECTIONS

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OF THEIR PLATFORM (SUMMARIZED REF A). AS THEY DID IN PRESS CONFERENCE MORNING AUGUST 3, SUU READ FIRST PORTION OF PLATFORM (POLITICAL, EDUCATION-CULTURE PLANKS) AND DAN THE SECOND (ECONOMIC-SOCIAL PROVISIONS, PEACE). SUU WAS RATHER UNIMPRESSIVE, SELDOM LOOKING UP FROM HIS TEXT; DAN GAVE A MORE POLISHED PERFORMANCE.

4. HA THUC KY WAS SECOND TO APPEAR. HE ALSO READ WHAT AMOUNTED TO CAMPAIGN PLATFORM. RUNNING-MATE NGUYEN VAN DINH WAS PRESENT BUT DID NOT SPEAK. AFTER BRIEFLY DESCRIBING SORRY STATE OF THE NATION, KY SAID HE IS RUNNING WITH HOPE HE CAN SERVE PEOPLE BY CARRYING OUT FOLLOWING TEN- PINT PROGRAM:

1) BRING ABOUT CEASEFIRE, BUILD PEACE, PROTECT TERRIROTY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF NATIONA.

2) RESPECT CONSITUTION, PROTECT FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY, CCEPT TRUE OPPOSITION;

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3) END DIVISION AND DISCRIMINIATION , ACHIEVE NATIONAL UNITY;

4) END SOCIAL INJUSTICE, ELIMINATE CORRUPTION;

5) INCREASE PRODUCTION, LEGALIZE IMPORTATION, REGULARIZE DISTIRUBTION STOP SEPCULATION, DEVELOP INDUSTRY REFORM LAND HOLDING SYSTEM;

6) HELP FARMERS AND WORKERS; COMPENSATE WAR VICTIMS; HELP POOR, UNEMPLOYED, VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTER, ETC; IMPORVE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, SOLVE HOUSING PROBLEM IN CITIES, BRING ELECTIRITY INTO WORKDERS' SECTIONS AND INTO COUNTRYSIDE;

7) PROTECT AND DEVELOP NATONAL CULTURE, ELIMINIATE CULTURAL SLAVISHNESS, TRULY REFORM EDUCATIONAL SY SEM, SUPPLY ADEQUATE NUMBERS OF PROFESSORS AND TEACHERS;

8) REORGAINIZE ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY, SIMPLIFY COMPLICATED PROCEDURES, TURN CIVIL SERVANTS INTO CADRE;

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9) BUILD REVOLUTIONARY AND PROFESSIONAL ARMY, ELIMINATE INJUSTICES IN USE OF SOLDIERS AND PROMOIONS, IMPORVE CONSCRITPION SYSTEM; GUARANTEE JOBS FOR VERTERANS, DISABLED VETERANS AND FAMILIES OF DECEASED SOLDIERS.

10) IMPOVE FOREIGN POLICY, WORK TO DISSEMINATE IDEOLOGY OF NATIONS'S STRUGGLE.

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5. KY PROMISED, WITH UNITED SUPPORT OF PEOPLE, TO BRING ABOUT A "NEW REVOLUTION". HE SAID THAT IF HE UNABLE TO CARRYOUT HIS PROGRAM IN ONE YEAR, HE WOLD ACCEPT BLAME AND BE WILLING TO RESIGN. KY REPEATED SAME SPEECH ON RADIO. BALANCE OF HIS TEN-MINUTE RADIO PRESENTATION CONSISTED ON NGUYEN VAN NGAI READING BIOGRAPHIES OF KQA AND RUNNING-MATE DINH.

6. THIRD MAJOR CANDIDATE TO SPEAK ON TELEVISION WAS TRAN VAN HUONG. HUONG BEGAN BY EMPHASIZING THAT PEOPLE, NOT PROGRAMS, ARE WHAT COUNT. PROGRAMS, NO MATTER HOW WELL CONCEIVED, WILL NOT SUCCEED UNLESS THERE ARE

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WORHT PEOPLE TO CARRY THEM OUT. ECHOING THEME OF HIS MORNING PRESS CONFERENCE, HUONG SAID VIET-NAM SUFFERS FROM LACK OF CONFIDENC BY PEOPLE IN THEIR LEADERS, AND LACK OF FAITH IN FUTURE. IT IS ALSO BESET BY CRISIS OF DISCIPLINE AND AUTHORITY. THEREFORE, IN HIS PROGRAM, HUONG WLL ENDEAVOR TO: 1) RESTORE NATIONAL CONFIDENCE, AND 2) RE-ESTABLISH NATIONAL AUTHORITY. VIETNAM MUST HAVE AN HONEST, DETERMINED AND COURAGEOUS GOVERNMENT TO ESCAPE ITS PRESENT DIFFICULTIES. MAI THO TRUYEN'S COMMENTS WERE CONFINED TO INTERPRETATION OF HUONG TRUYEN SYMBOL (MAN SOWING RICE UNDER RISING SUN), TO EFFECT THAT SEED OF PEOPLE'S EFFORT WILL RESULT IN HARVEST OF HAPPINESS.

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ACTION EA 19

INFO NEA 19, NSCE 00, AE 00, SSO 00, DODE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00, CCO 00,
SAL 01, SS 35, GPM 03, SP 02, S 01, L 03, H 02, P 04, NSC 10, INR 07,
RSR 01, /107 W

P R 041130Z AUG 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4062
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 3682
CINCPAC
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7. HUONG RADIO ADDRESS WAS SIGHTLY DIFFERENT. HE SAID HUONG-TRUYEN TICKET STANDS FOR 1) RESTORATION OF NATIONAL AUTHORITY, 2) EFFORT TO ACHIEVE PEACE, AND 3) CONSTRUCTION OF JUST AND ORDERLY SOCIETY. ELABORATING ON THREE POINTS, HUONG SAID THAT ONLY FREELY ELECTED GOVERNMENT CAN RESTORE FAITH OF HE PEOPLE AND IMPROVE THEIR LIVES. ONLY SUCH A GOVERNMENT CAN CREATE NATIONAL UNITY AND DETERMINATION NECESSARY FOR RESTORATION OF TRUE PEACE: A PEACE BASED ON TWO PRINCIPLES:

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1) THE GOVERNMENTS OF SOUTH VIET-NAM AND NORTH VIET-NAM MUST BE THE CENTRAL ELEMENTS IN ANY PEACE TALKS;

2) ANY PEACEFUL SOLUTION MUST RESPECT THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND ESSENTIAL INTERESTS

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OF THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIET-NAM.

ONLY A FREELY ELECTED GOVERNMENT CAN BUILD A STRONG AND JUST SOCIETY WHICH WILL SEE THE NEEDS OF ALL THE PEOPLE. HUONG PLEDGED TO TRY TO CARRY OUT HIS PROGRAMS IN FRAME-WORK OF DEMOCRACY AND LEGALITY. SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS MENTIONED ABOVE WILL ONLY BE PREREQUISITE FOR ULTIMATE SOLUTION, JUST REUNIFICATION OF COUNTRY AND CREATION OF A STRONG, JUST AND ORDERLY NEW SOCIETY.

8. GENERAL THIEU WAS LAST OF MAJOR CANDIDATES TO APPEAR. VIET-NAM THIEU GAVE AN ASSURED AND PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE. VERBATIM ACCOUNT PRESS ITEM TRANSMITTED REF B IS A NEARLY VERBATIM ACCOUNT OF THIEU'S RADIO ADDRESS, WHICH FOLLOWED HIS TV APPEARANCE. THIEU'S TELEVISION SPEECH WAS ALMOST THE SAME, ALTHOUGH SLIGHTLY REARRANGED.

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IN PORTION OF THIEU'S SPEECH WHERE HE SAID "WE HAVE IDENCE IN OURSELVES," THIEU CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENT "SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND HONOR OF SOLDIER," ALONG OUR ANTI-COMMUNIST RECORD AND OUR EXPERIENCE IN MENT OVER PAST FEW YEARS, WILL IN SOME MEASURE BE ANTEE FOR THE PEOPLE, AND WILL HELP US A GREAT SUCCEED IN THE COMING PERIOD."

FOLLOWING PASSAGE, USTER NOTING THAT IN A NATION HERE NO PARTY OR GROUP IS STRONG ENOUGH TO ERNMENT, "ALMOST EVERYTHING I[illegible]ERTAKEN BY THIEU WENT ON TO SAY: "IBEL[illegible]E SUPPORT RCES IS VERY NECESSARY, NOT [illegible]ZE DICTAI- TO ACHIEVE UNITY AND FULFILL[illegible]3 MORE IEU THEN ADDED STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT HIS GROUND DOES NOT MEAN THAT HE WOULD SET UP TORSHIP.

IDATES SEEMED TO ENJOY THEIR OPPORTUNITY AND DISPLAYED WIDE RANGE OF ORATORICAL

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STYLES. HOANG CO BINH USED EXPANISVE GESTURES AS HE PROMISED TO STRUGGLE, IN SPIRIT OF EUCRIFICE, FOR GOOD OF PEOPLE. HE THEN LISTENED AS HIS RUNNING-MATE, LIEU QUANG KHINH REVIEWED BINH'S VARIOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

12. TRUONG DINH DZU ADVOCAED ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING AN HONORABLE PEACE. AS HE STATED IN HIS PLATFORM (REF C), DZU CALLED FOR HALT TO BOMBING OF NORTH VIET-NAM, AND ALSO FOR IMMEDIATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH HANOI.

13. PHAN HUY CO RECOUNTED HIS OPPOSITION TO DIEM, AND NOTED FACT THAT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CERTIFIED HIS LONG ABSENCE FROM VIET-NAM AS "POLITICAL EXILE." HE ADVOCATED "A CLEAR POLICY-PEACE IN VICTORY." CO REMINDED VIEWERS TO TUNE IN AGAIN ON AUGUST 13 FOR HIS SECOND APPEARANCE, THEN SIGNED OFF BY READING A FEW LINES OF POETRY. (CO REPEATED HIS PEACE-THROUGH-VICTORY THEME IN RADIO ADDRESS, AND WENT INTO SLIGHTLY MORE DETAIL ON HIS CAMPAIGN PLATFORM.)

14. TRAN VAN LY STRESSED THAT HE IS COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT,

PAGE 5 RUMJIR GJEOEXW C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NOT THE CANDIDATE OF ANY POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUP. SPEAKING IN THICK CENTRAL VIETNAMESE ACCENT, LY DECRIED VIET-NAM'S RECENT PAST WITH ITS FIVE GOVERNMENTS, "FIRST MILITARY, THEN CIVILIAN, THEN MILITARY AGAIN, OR MILITARY-CIVILIAN." THERE MUST BE LEGAL, CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. LY PLEDGED TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY IN SINCERITY AND GOOD WILL.

15. NGUYEN HOA HIEP PROBABLY SPOKE MORE WORDS IN ALLOTED TIME THAN ANY OF THE OTHER CANDIDATES. IN VOICE-PITCHED HIGHER AS HE WENT ALONG, HIEP REVIEWED MAIN POINTS OF HIS PROGRAM. RUNNING-MATE NGUYEN THE TRUYEN THEN GAVE VIEWERS RUNDOWN OF HIEP'S REVOLUTIONARY RECORD.

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16. VU HONG KHANH ALSO POINTED TO HIS REVOLUTIONARY BACKGROUND, NOTING HIS ASSOCIATION WITH NGUYEN THAI HOC, PARTICIPATION IN YAN BAY UPRISING, LONG PERIODS OF EXILE AND PRISON. HANH'S RUNNING-MATE, DUONG TRUNG DUNG, EMPHASIZED THAT HE IS HOA HAO AND JOINED WITH FIGHTERS IN WESTERN REGION IN STRUGGLE AGAINST COMMUNISM AND COLONIALISM.

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17. NGUYEN DINH QUAT RECALLED HIS ELECTION CAMPAIGN AGAINST DIEM. HE THANKED PEOPLE WHO VOTED FR HIM THEN, AND SAID HE WAS HAPPY, EVEN IN DEFEAT, TO HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK OUT FOR OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF VIET-NAM. IN FACE OF HIS DETERMINATION DIEM SOUGHT EVERY MEANS TO SILENCE HIM, INCLUDING "CONFISCATING MOST OF MY PROPERTY AND MY WEALTH." QUAT ASSURED AUDIENCE THAT "IF I WAS IN PAIN IT WAS FOR THE PEOPLE, IF I SUFFERED IT WAS FOR THE PEOPLE." (SAIGON POST WAS PROMPTED TO COMMENT THAT QUAT ADDED "A LIGHT NOTE" TO AN OTHERWISE SERIOUS EVENT.)

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